



STATE OF IDAHO

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND WELFARE

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENT
150 N. 3rd Avenue (basement)
Pocatello, Idaho 83201

April 27, 1988

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob Braun
FROM: Gordon Hopson *[Signature]*
RE: Cyprus NPDES Permit

On Monday, April 18, Walt and I met with Bert Doughty and Ken Watson of Cyprus Mine and Pat Green, U.S. Forest Service, to discuss the Cyprus NPDES permit.

Previously we had arranged to meet at Pat Hughes Creek and dye the creek with fluorescence as its effluent flowed into Thompson Creek. The result of the fluorescence dye revealed that there is total mixing of the Pat Hughes Creek effluent in Thompson Creek within forty yards downstream.

In discussing the permit with Bert Doughty of Cyprus, I asked him if Cyprus would object to instance mixing of the Pat Hughes Creek discharge in Thompson Creek and he said "no". No one felt that chronic levels would be exceeded or even reached. The permit should state that chronic levels should never be exceeded in Thompson Creek.

Please be aware that Pat Hughes Creek has a point source discharge to Thompson Creek six months of the year and Buckskin Creek 3 months of the year. The other months the creek sinks into the groundwater before there is any discharge.

It is our opinion (Walt and myself) that we accept instance mixing; we realize this allows 100% of the stream to be used for dilution, but it is a satisfactory solution to the problem. I believe this is what Wally wanted to do originally.

GH/jr

cc: Burt Doughty
Pat Green
Wally Scarborough
Walt Poole
Jerry Yoder